

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: TACHIHARA, et al
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: On Even Date
For: PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT METHOD, SYSTEM AND PROGRAM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 24, 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the document listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted with the new application.

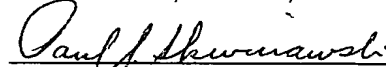
Although the document listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 is not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98 (a) (3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by the attached English language abstract.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 500.43697X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS LLP



Paul J. Skwierawski
Registration No. 32,173

PJS/nac
Attachments

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known		
						Application Number
				Filing Date		March 24, 2004
				First Named Inventor		TACHIYARA, HIDEKAZU
				Art Unit		
				Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	500.43697X00	

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ —Number ⁴ —Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-2000-181756	06-30-2000			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO:**
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If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.